

REMARKS

The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 17-35. Claims 1-16 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 17-35 have been added. The instant specification has been amended. The drawings have been amended. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

DRAWINGS

Figure 8 of the drawings has been amended to correct an informality. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

SPECIFICATION

The instant specification has been amended to correct an informality. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-5, 8-10, and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Abler et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,504,851 B1 (hereinafter, Abler). The rejection is moot in light of the claim cancellations, without prejudice.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6-7, 11, and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abler. The rejection is moot in light of the claim cancellations, without prejudice.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 17-35 have been added. Support for Claims 17-31 may be found in the instant specification at least at page 19, line 10 – page 22, line 21, and Figure 7. Support for Claims 32-35 may be found in the instant specification at least at page 14, line 19 – page 19, line 8, and Figures 5-6. No new matter has been added as a result of the new claims.

Claim 17 recites:

An apparatus allowing multiple types of connections to be made to the apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receptacle having a plurality of electrical connecting lines, wherein at least one of said plurality of electrical connecting lines is used to detect more than one type of connection to be made directly to said receptacle;

b) a plurality of detection devices for detecting ones of the types of connections; and

c) switching logic adapted to couple appropriate ones of the electrical connecting lines to ones of said plurality of detection devices to allow detection of the type of connection to the apparatus.

Claim 17 recites a limitation of “at least one of said plurality of electrical connecting lines is used to detect more than one type of connection to be made directly to said receptacle.” Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art fails to teach or suggest at least one of said plurality of electrical connecting lines is used to detect more than one type of connection to be made directly to said receptacle.

For example, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of Applicants’ invention to modify Abler to arrive at the Applicants’ claimed invention. Abler teaches a method of detecting which

LAN protocol is being used out of several possible LAN protocols. Applicants note that Abler teaches that the same line is not re-used to detect the connection for more than one of the protocols. For example, Ethernet is detected by activity on lines 3/6. Moreover, RJ-45 contact assignments guarantee that Token ring or ATM do not cause activity on lines 3/6. (col. 7, lines 37-43). Token ring is detected on lines 4/5 during the loopback test (col. 8, lines 178-22). ATM is detected on lines 7/8 (col. 9, lines 1-7). Thus, Abler fails to teach or suggest using at least one of a plurality of electrical connecting lines to detect more than one type of connection, as claimed.

Claim 17 further recites a plurality of detection devices for detecting ones of the types of connections. Claim 17 still further recites switching logic adapted to couple appropriate ones of the electrical connecting lines to ones of said plurality of detection devices to allow detection of the type of connection to the apparatus. Applicants respectfully assert that the cited art fails to teach or suggest "switching logic adapted to couple appropriate ones of the electrical connecting lines to ones of said plurality of detection devices to allow detection of the type of connection to the apparatus."

As discussed above, Abler does not use the same electrical line on the RJ-45 connector to detect more than one LAN protocol. Hence, Abler does not teach or suggest switching logic adapted to couple appropriate ones of the electrical connecting lines to ones of said plurality of detection devices to allow detection of the type of connection to the apparatus.

For the foregoing reasons, Claim 17 is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. As such, allowance of Claim 17 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 23 recites, in part:

a receptacle having a plurality of electrical connecting lines, wherein at least one of said plurality of electrical connecting lines is used to detect more than one type of connection to be made directly to said receptacle, such that said more than one type of connection can be made to said receptacle without requiring the use of an intermediate connection device.

For at least the reasons discussed with respect to the similar limitations in New Claim 17, New Claim 23 is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. As such, allowance of Claim 23 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 32 recites, in part:

providing a peripheral component having a receptacle, said receptacle having a plurality of electrical connecting lines, wherein at least one of said plurality of electrical connecting lines is used to detect more than one type of connection made directly to said receptacle.

For at least the reasons discussed with respect to the similar limitations in New Claim 17, New Claim 32 is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. As such, allowance of Claim 32 is earnestly solicited.

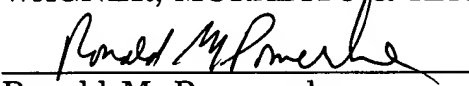
New Claims 18-22, 24-31, and 33-35 depend from Claims 17, 23, and 32, which are believed to be allowable for the foregoing reasons. As such, Claims 18-22, 24-31, and 33-35 are believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejected Claims is requested. Based on the arguments and amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 17-35 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, allowance of Claims 17-35 is solicited.

Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

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Respectfully submitted,
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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

	LAN <u>152</u>	Modem <u>150</u>	ISDN <u>154</u>
Relay <u>507</u>	A	-	B
Relay <u>508</u>	-	A	B
Relay <u>508</u> <u>506</u>	A	-	-

'508' replaced with '506'

FIG. 8